**Standard 1.0: Culture encompasses similarities and differences among people, including their beliefs, knowledge, changes, values, and tradition. Students will explore these elements of society to develop an appreciation of and respect for the variety of human cultures.**

1.1 understand the influence of natural rights on American culture.

1.2 understand the impact of the political system on American culture.

**Standard 2.0: Globalization of the economy, the explosion of population growth, technological changes and international competition compel students to understand, both personally and globally, production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. Students will examine and analyze economic concepts such as basic needs versus wants, using versus saving money, and policy-making versus decision-making.**

2.1 understand economic systems and political structures.

2.2 understand the rise of capitalism in the United States.

2.3 understand how all nations use "tools of foreign policy" such as alliances, economic aid, economic sanctions, trade agreements, propaganda, military aid, treaties, troop movements, and wars to promote national interests.

2.4 understand the connection among resources and institutions that govern the management and distributions of those resources.

**Standard 3.0: Geography enables the students to see, understand and appreciate the web of relationships between people, places, and environments. Students will use the knowledge, skills, and understanding of concepts within the six essential elements of geography: world in spatial terms, places and regions, physical systems, human systems, environment and society, and the use of geography.**

3.1 Understand and analyze how the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of the earth's surface

3.2 understand and analyze the impact of physical and human geography on given political systems.

3.3 understand the use of geography in determining policies such as zoning, redistricting, and the census.

**Standard 4.0: Governance establishes structures of power and authority in order to provide order and stability. Civic efficacy requires understanding rights and responsibilities, ethical behavior, and the role of citizens within their community, nation, and world.**

4.1 understand the role of politics and government in society.

4.2 understand the role of constitutions in preventing abuses of government power.

4.3 understand the basic features of major forms of governments in the world.

4.4 understand the basic features of major forms of governance in the world.

4.5 understand the role of the United States legal system.

4.6 understand the concept of federalism.

**Standard 5.0: History involves people, events, and issues. Students will evaluate evidence to develop comparative and causal analyses and to interpret primary sources. They will construct sound historical arguments and perspectives on which informed decision in contemporary life can be based.**

5.1 understand historical and modern examples of the concepts of limited and unlimited governance.

5.2 understand specific historical documents and institutions which shaped the principles of the United States Constitution.

5.3 understand the importance of the rule of laws and the sources, purposes, and function of law.

5.4 understand the United States Constitution as a "living document" in both principle and practice.

5.5 understand how the United States foreign policy is determined by the concept of national interest in both historical and modern settings.

5.6 understand the balance between the protection of individual rights and the general welfare of all citizens.

**Standard 6.0: Personal development and identity are shaped by factors including culture, groups, and institutions. Central to this development are exploration, identification, and analysis of how individuals and groups work independently and cooperatively.**

6.1 understand the impact of individual and group decisions on citizens and communities.

6.2 understand how groups can effect change at the local, state national and world levels.

6.3 understand the evolution of political parties and their role as a mechanism for creating and sustaining political participation.

6.4 understand how the philosophies of liberalism and conservatism correlate to the two major American political parties.

6.5 understand the impact and influence of participatory citizenship on government at all levels.

6.6 understand the role of individual leaders who have affected policies, case laws, and legislation.

6.7 understand the role of political action committees, non-profit organizations, and other groups that influenced policy and institutions.